

Divided Victory

Nineteen states from which the official returns have been received gave Roosevelt 4,736,113 votes and Parker 2,749,007. These states in 1900 gave McKinley 4,358,226 and Bryan 3,626,966. Roosevelt's gain over McKinley in these states is 377,887. Parker's loss as measured by Bryan's vote in 1900 is 877,959. In other words, the republicans made a normal gain, while the Democrats sustained unparalleled losses, which accounts for Mr. Roosevelt's unprecedented plurality.

The official returns are coming in slowly, but it is already evident that the total vote was less than that cast in 1896 or in 1900. The Evening Post estimates Roosevelt's total vote at 7,702,180 and Parker's at 5,119,704. McKinley's vote in 1900 was 7,207,923 and Bryan's 6,258,133. The estimates of the 1904 vote may be slightly augmented by the full official returns, but they indicate an increase of approximately 500,000 in the Republican vote as compared with 1900 and a falling off of 1,250,000 in the Democratic vote.

The total vote in 1900 was little more than 25,000 in excess of the record-breaking vote of 1896. Against a total vote of 13,400,000. It may be many thousand less. A con-

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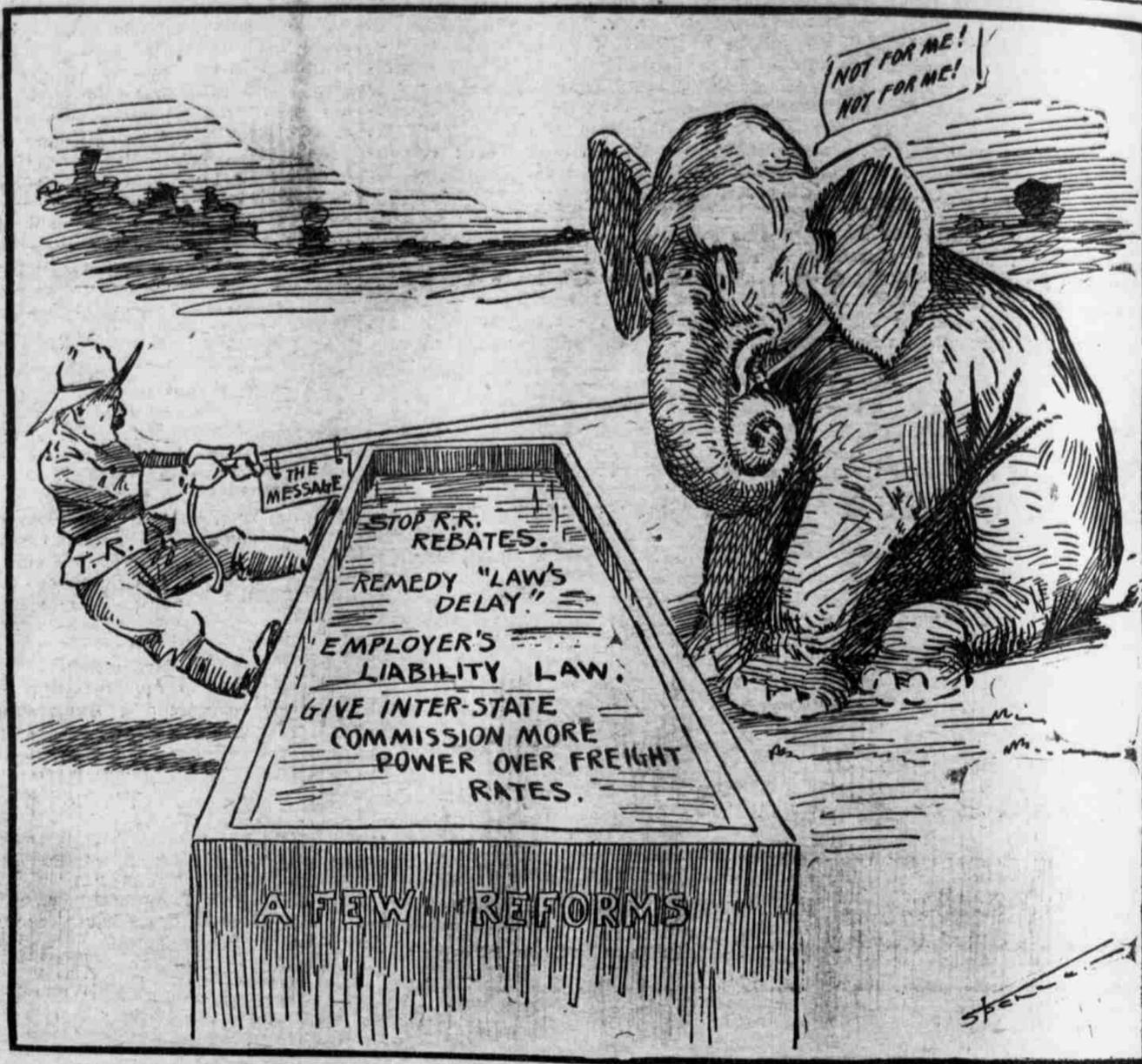
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He has led the animal to water, but—!

servative estimate indicates that 2,500,000 electors failed to vote at all—a number that is about equal to Mr. Roosevelt's popular plurality. On the basis of the vote actually cast, Mr. Roosevelt could have allowed Judge Parker all the Debs vote, all the Watson vote, all the Swallow vote and all the scattering vote, and still won by a popular plurality double that of McKinley in 1900.

Only two states carried by McKinley show a decreased Republican vote this year—Maine and Maryland—and the decrease in Maine is only 51. Only seven states show a gain for Parker over the Bryan vote in 1900—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Delaware, West Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi. In the other states Parker's loss ranged from 253 in New Jersey to 185,000 in Illinois.

The meaning of these figures is very plain. The Republican stay-at-home vote was largely offset by the votes of Democrats who preferred a radical Republican to a conservative Democrat, while hundreds of thousands of others did not vote at all. Judge Parker's total vote is less than Cleveland's in 1888, and only 200,000 in excess of Cleveland's vote in 1884, although 3,000,000 more votes were cast in this election than in that of 1888 and 3,300,000 more than in that of 1884.

Even in the disaster of 1871 Greeley polled more votes than Seymour polled in 1868. yet Judge Parker ran nearly 1,250,000 behind Bryan in 1900.

In 1892 Harrison was defeated by the stay-at-home republicans, his vote having fallen from 5,440,216 in 1888 to 5,176,108 in 1892. The disaffection against Parker was the disaffection against Harrison multiplied by five. That is the whole story.—New York World.

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